

## ANNOUNCING A DIGITAL PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR COLORADO EDUCATORS

WestEd, in partnership with the Colorado Department of Education, is pleased to offer a new and improved version of its Formative Assessment Insights course for 2016-2017 school year. This innovative professional learning experience for teachers improves their use of formative assessment practices to support deeper learning for all students.



### Why Formative Assessment?

When teachers implement formative assessment as a process, in collaboration with their students, it can have powerful effects on student learning.

Formative assessment involves teachers making adjustments to their instruction based on evidence they intentionally collect while student learning is developing, and providing students with feedback that helps them advance their learning. Students are equal stakeholders in the process and participate through self-assessment and providing peer feedback.

### Why This Course?

- It is transformative; challenging districts, schools, teachers and students to think differently about formative assessment for (and during) learning.
- It is job-embedded; providing opportunities for teachers to learn, apply, and reflect by themselves and with colleagues.
- It is ongoing; supporting extensive practice and opportunities for peer feedback over 6 months
- It is collaborative; supporting a blended learning model.
- It supports leaders; providing resources that support teachers and students in their learning.



“ I now see the big picture of helping students think about their thinking. Being intentional with my instruction and setting learning goals and success criteria has been very rewarding for both me and my students. I like that they take an active part in the learning process and have collaborative discussions with one another to further their learning. I have not mastered all of the components of formative assessment by any means, but I am so fired up and excited to be implementing this in my classroom and am continually working on improving my skills. ”

## LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES (LEAs) AND SCHOOLS SHOULD CONSIDER THIS COURSE IF...

- They are thinking systemically about building coherence and shared understanding of assessment for learning.
- They recognize that classroom-based formative assessment is much more than a test or an exit ticket.
- They are interested in exploring digital professional learning that impacts practice rather than “one and done” approaches to professional development.
- They value teacher collaboration and have structures in place for teachers to work together on a regular basis.
- They have principals who are willing to engage with teachers in professional learning.



## TEACHERS SHOULD CONSIDER THIS COURSE IF...

- They are committed to strengthening their practice and collaborating with others over 6 months
- They thrive in a vibrant professional learning community, are open to learning new ways to engage students in their own learning, and are willing to put in the time to change their practice to transform student learning.

“ I thought I knew what formative assessment was... I didn't. I had an idea...but this course has provided me with a global view as well as a look at the very details that make formative assessments valuable to both teachers and students. ”

## WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

- The cost is \$120.00 per teacher which includes:
- Access to the course for the school year
- Leaders' Lookout, an online resource to support leaders in their learning
- Technology support
- An in-person convening for instructional leaders (district, principals, coaches) with Margaret Heritage hosted by the Colorado Department of Education
- Certificate of completion process
- LEAS and schools will form their own teams

For more information, visit <http://fa-insights.wested.org/>.

Interested in this course?

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Department of Education